



PATENT

Serial No. 09/732,574

Docket No. 1009-043

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 09/732,574
Applicant Mark Steven Boggs
Filed 8 December 2000
Title PROGRAMMABLE LOGIC CONTROLLER FUNCTION CALL
METHOD, SYSTEM, AND APPARATUS
Art Unit 2182
Examiner Niketa I. Patel

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MAY 27 2004

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Sir:

I, Dr. Ronald D. Williams, a citizen of the United States, whose full post office address is
1715 Hearthglow Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22901, declare as follows under penalty of perjury.

1. I hold a Ph.D. degree in Electrical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology awarded in 1984.
2. I hold a M.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Virginia awarded in 1978.
3. I hold a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Virginia

awarded in 1977.

4. I am currently an associate professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering at the University of Virginia.
5. Since 1984, I have worked continually in the field of electrical engineering with particular emphasis in embedded computing with applications in control and signal processing.
6. During my career, I have been granted five U.S. patents for my own inventions in the field of embedded computing.
7. I have reviewed Application Serial No. 09/732,574.
8. I have reviewed U.S. Patent No. 5,978,593 (Sexton).
9. Among the devices with which I was familiar prior to 12/08/2000, the filing date of Application Serial No. 09/732,574, were devices of the type recited in Sexton.
10. I have reviewed the U.S. Patent Office Action dated 22 December 2003 relating to Application Serial No. 09/732,574 (the "Office Action"), which contains the following statement: "Sexton teaches ... customized function calls".
11. That statement in the Official Action is factually incorrect in view of the state of the electrical engineering art as of 12/08/2000, the filing date of Application Serial No. 09/732,574. One skilled in the art would not find that "Sexton teaches ... customized function calls".
12. Rather, upon reviewing the entire specification of the 09/732,574 application, one

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skilled in the art would interpret the term "customized function calls" to mean a plurality of machine readable instructions that are part of a programmable logic controller operating system and adapted to direct the programmable logic controller to perform a task related to a specific situation.

13. One skilled in the art would not interpret the term "customized function call" to mean a "mapping configuration information" as recited in Sexton at column 4, lines 1-25, as a "table of mapping functions" as recited in Sexton at column 3, lines 45-67, or as recited in any manner by Sexton.

14. Accordingly, one skilled in the art would not find that Sexton teaches "customized function calls".

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signed this 10th day of May 2004


Dr. Ronald D. Williams